

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 28, 2001      LB 78, 113, 201, 202, 206, 277, 408, 438  
506, 509, 657, 657A, 668, 668A, 671, 706  
750, 797, 808, 809

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. Thank you. Enrollment and Review reports LB 809, LB 706, LB 408, LB 438, LB 657, LB 657A, LB 668, LB 750 to Select File, some of those having Enrollment and Review amendments attached. Committee on Revenue reports LB 206 to General File, LB 277 to General File, with committee amendments attached; and LB 78, LB 201, LB 202, LB 506, LB 509 as indefinitely postponed. Education Committee reports LB 797 to General File as amended. Mr. President, a new A bill, LB 668A, by Senator Kremer. (Read by title for the first time.) Senator Janssen, an amendment to LB 671; Senator Chambers, to LB 113, to be printed. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 1243-1254.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. The next bill on the agenda?

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 808, by Urban Affairs Committee. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 17, referred to the Urban Affairs Committee, advanced to General File. I have committee amendments. (AM0632, Legislative Journal page 766.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Hartnett, you're recognized to open on LB 808.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members of the body, this legislation is the product of nearly 20 years of work by volunteer firefighters of this state, not mentioning quite an odyssey, about like Senator Preister, of a decade of my own effort, to create a program to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters for the many cities and villages of the rural areas that rely upon volunteer firefighters. Basically, the act being amended by this bill created the authority for cities, villages, and fire protection districts to set up recruitment and incentive programs with intent that the state would be making matching contributions to enhance the value of the benefits provided by the programs. The programs are a promise by local subdivision to recognize and reward the service of volunteers with a small financial bonus at the time when they reach the age of 65. When a volunteer has served for ten consecutive years as